

THE NAME SHE CARRIES

A Reading Group Guide · A.M. Soliman · amsoliman.com

About the book: Aisha Reynolds walked into an emergency room with severe pain and walked out with four words typed into her chart. What happened next becomes the case of a lifetime — passed from a legend of the courtroom to his daughter, Mary Adel, who must stand up to the hospital's lawyers, her own firm, and the quiet machinery that decides whose pain gets believed. A novel about truth, bias, inheritance — and the difference between carrying a name and earning it.

Discussion Questions

1. Did Mary Adel earn her place in the courtroom, or was she always destined to inherit it?
2. Who bears the greatest responsibility for what happened to Aisha Reynolds: the people who treated her, the hospital that employed them, or a healthcare system that allowed it to happen?
3. If you were Mary, would you have accepted the case from her father? Why or why not?
4. Which character surprised you most? Did your opinion of anyone change dramatically as the story unfolded?
5. Is justice necessarily the same thing as winning a lawsuit? Did the legal outcome deliver the justice the characters needed?
6. How much of Mary's determination comes from her commitment to Aisha, and how much from wanting to prove herself worthy of her father's name? Does that distinction matter?
7. If you could change one decision made by a major character, which would it be? How might that change the story?
8. At the end of the novel, what does the title *The Name She Carries* mean to you? Does it refer only to Mary, or to other characters as well?
9. Which was your favorite character, and why?
10. What did the book tell you about society, and what would you want to change about society after reading it?

Optional closing conversation

Which scene, relationship, or moral dilemma has stayed with you the longest—and why?

Some themes may connect to difficult personal experiences. Participants are welcome to pass on any question.

Invite the Author

A.M. Soliman joins book clubs by video — any club, anywhere, no charge. He is a practicing New Jersey trial attorney and a former newspaper columnist; his debut novel *Brothers in Service* (Kirkus: "a thought-provoking work") is also available for club selection. To schedule: ahmed@amsoliman.com or amsoliman.com.